

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 and 16-22 remain pending in this application. Claim 15 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-13 stand withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a nonelected invention. Claims 16-22 have been added and are directed to embodiments of the claimed invention.

The amendment to claim 14 is supported, for example, by original claim 5 and the specification at page 26, lines 4-11. New claims 16-18 are supported by original claims 11-13, new claim 19 is supported by the specification at page 25, lines 26-30, and new claims 20-22 are supported by original claims 2-4. Accordingly, no new matter has been introduced by these amendments.

We thank the examiner for acknowledging the priority claim and documents, and that the documents submitted in the Information Disclosure Statements have been considered.

The rejections of claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 101 and 112 have been rendered moot by cancellation of this claim without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Steele et al. (WO 2001/76574). The Office argues that Steele et al. teaches that Candesartan is used in compositions to treat obesity.

According to claim 14, as amended, and new claims 16-22, the claimed method of inhibiting a body weight gain comprises administering not only an effective amount of a compound (which could be Candesartan as explicitly recited in claim 18) having an angiotensin II antagonistic activity, a prodrug or a salt thereof, but also an effective amount of a PPAR γ agonist-like substance in combination. Steele et al. does not teach

such a combination, and thus cannot anticipate claims 14 and 16-22. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Prompt and favorable reconsideration is requested.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: July 16, 2008

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